

RETURN OF ETHIOPIAN MIGRANTS FROM THE KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA

Regional Office for the East and Horn of Africa

5 May 2017 - 31 March 2019

REGIONAL DATA HUB | RDH



International Organization for Migration (IOM)
The UN Migration Agency

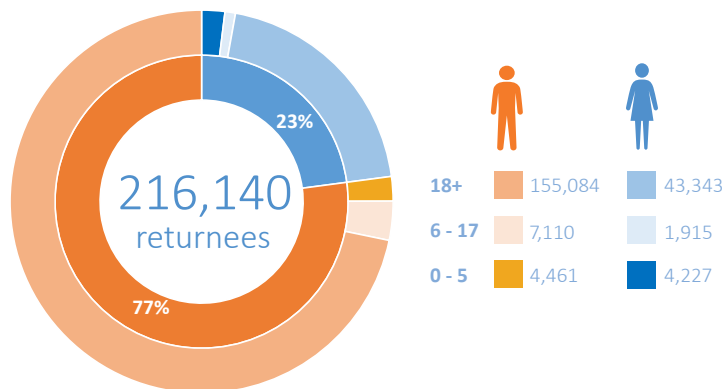
BACKGROUND

In March 2017, the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia launched a campaign titled 'A Nation without Violations', granting all irregular migrants an amnesty period of 90 days to leave the country without facing penalties. An estimated 500,000 migrants were present in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) when the campaign was launched in March. After multiple extensions, the amnesty period ended in November 2017.

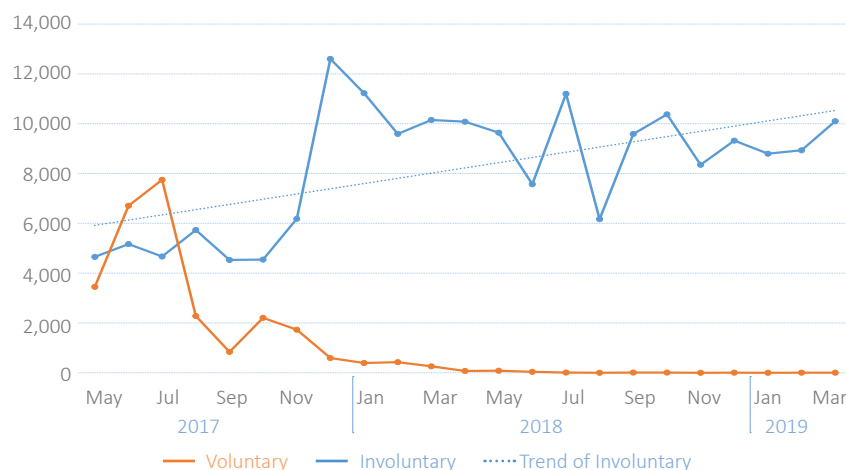
Returnees arrive at Bole International Airport in Addis Ababa, where they are registered by IOM staff before continuing on to their destination. IOM also provides travel support to the most vulnerable migrants. IOM estimates that around 260,000 have returned to Ethiopia since the decree was issued, 222,882 of whom have been registered since April 2017. Since May 2017, IOM has electronically registered 216,140 returnees whose profiles are presented in this factsheet.

DEMOGRAPHICS

Migrant Sex and Age Breakdown



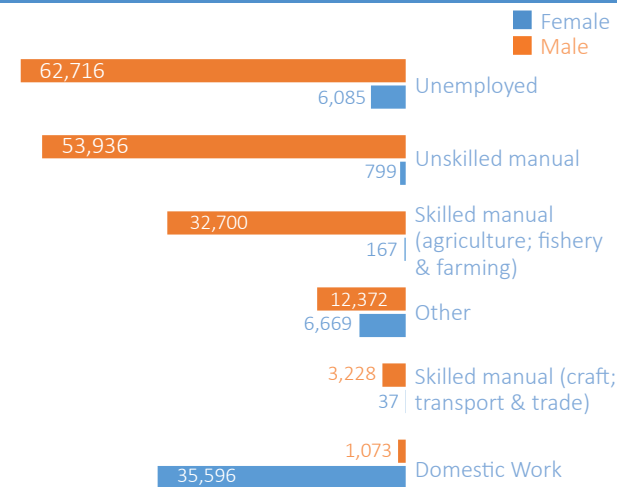
Total number of voluntary and involuntary returns (by month)



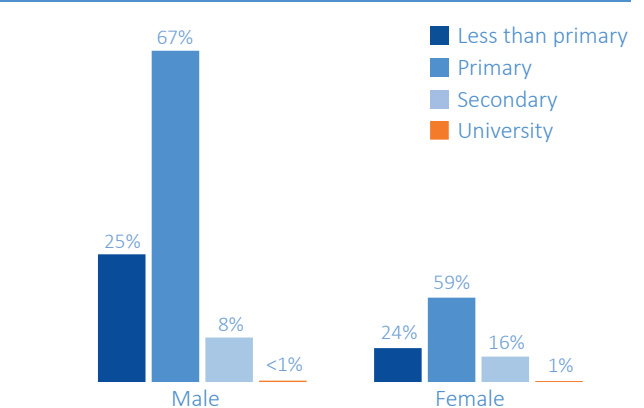
NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

- 260,000** estimated to have returned to Ethiopia since March 2017
- 216,140¹** electronically registered and profiled by IOM since May 2017
- 17,713** minors registered by IOM staff at Bole airport since May 2017
- 9,397** returnees arriving at Bole airport on average each month
- 88%** of registered migrants returned involuntarily

Occupation in KSA (by sex)



Highest Level of Education (by sex and age 6+)



* Due to ongoing revision of the vulnerability screening process, the full publication of data relating to migrant vulnerabilities is currently on hold.

¹ IOM began collecting data on returnees from KSA in April 2017 and switched to electronic registration in May 2017. The total number of returnees registered since April is 222,882.

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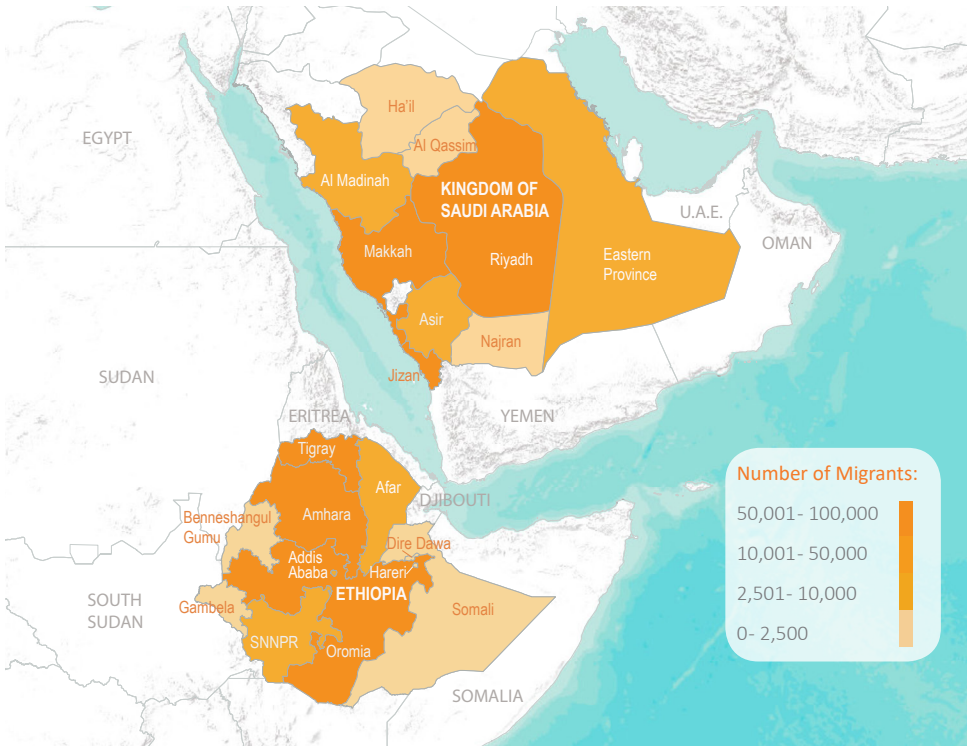
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Number of Migrants Returning from KSA to Ethiopia by Region of Residence in KSA and Region of Intended Destination in Ethiopia*



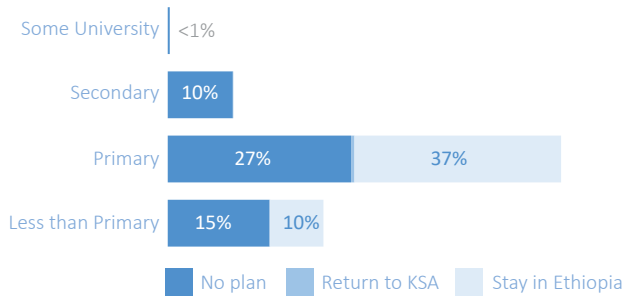
Region of Residence in KSA	No. of Migrants ¹
Jazan	76,571
Makkah	65,800
Riyadh	51,753
Al Madinah	6,454
Asir	4,671
Eastern Province	2,724
Najran	705
Ha'il	313
Al Qassim	12

¹ 7,137 migrants did not respond

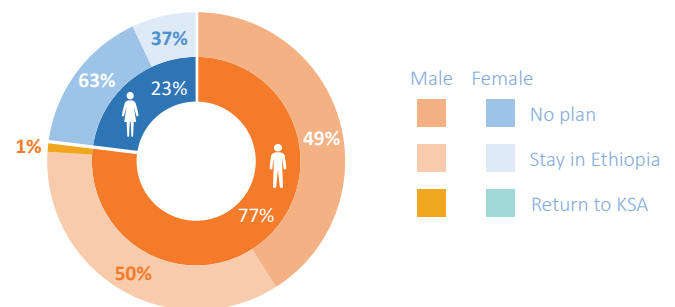
Region of Intended Return in Ethiopia	No. of Migrants ²
Amhara	70,042
Oromia	67,340
Tigray	60,869
SNNPR	7,496
Addis Ababa	4,326
Afar	3,664
Dire Dawa	985
Somali	528
Hareri	438
Benishangul Gumu	349
Gambela	42

² 61 migrants did not respond

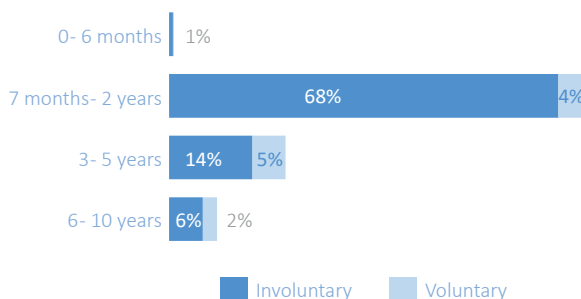
Plans for the Future (by level of education)



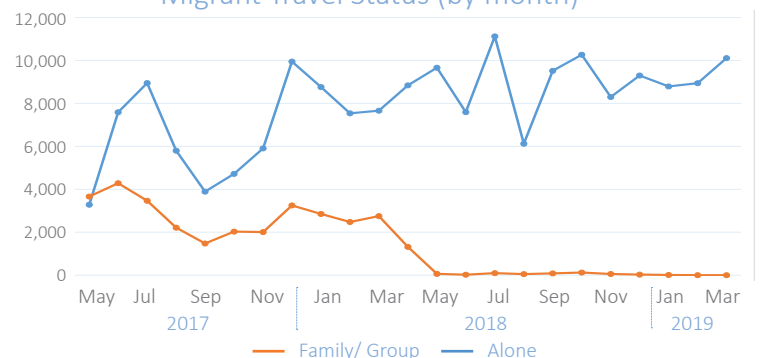
Plans for the Future (by sex)



Duration of Stay in KSA (by type of return)



Migrant Travel Status (by month)



* This map is for illustration purposes only. Names and boundaries on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IOM. Source: Basemap (Esri, USGS, NOAA); Data (IOM and OSM)